

Appl. No. 10/751,090

Amdt. Dated 11/3/2005

Response to Office action dated 10/14/2005

REMARKS

Claims 6-10, 12, 14-18, 21 and 26-30 are allowed. Claims 14-18 and 21 have been amended solely to delete an "of" in the preamble. Claims 1-5, 11, 13, 19-20 and 22-25 have been canceled. Claims 6-10, 12, 14-18, 21 and 26-30 are pending.

Disclaimers Relating to Claim Interpretation and Prosecution History Estoppel

Claims 1-5, 11, 13, 19-20 and 22-25 have been canceled, notwithstanding the belief that these claims were allowable. Except as specifically admitted below, no claim elements have been narrowed. Rather, cosmetic amendments have been made to 14-18 and 21. Claims 14-18 and 21 have been amended solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process, and the amendments were not necessary for patentability.

Any reference herein to "the invention" is intended to refer to the specific claim or claims being addressed herein. The claims of this Application are intended to stand on their own and are not to be read in light of the prosecution history of any related or unrelated patent or patent application. Furthermore, no arguments in any prosecution history relate to any claim in this Application, except for arguments specifically directed to the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 11, 13, 19, 20 and 22 under 35 USC § 103 as obvious from Russell et al. (US 2004/0161371). Claims 1, 4, 5, 11, 13, 19, 20 and 22 have been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 USC § 103 as obvious from Russell in view of Snowball (US 4,762,613). Claim 2 has been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claim 3 under 35 USC § 103 as obvious from Russell in view of Chen (US 6,580,228). Claim 3 has been canceled.

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The Examiner rejected claims 23-25 under 35 USC § 103 as obvious from Russell in view of Snowball and Chen. Claims 23-25 have been canceled.

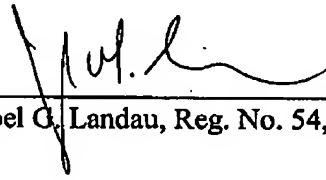
Conclusion

In view of all of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested and allowance at an early date is solicited.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney to answer any questions or to discuss steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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